



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **COUNTY GETS SCHOOL FLASHING BEACON GRANT** ***Remote System Allows Faster Beacons from Central Location***

When schedules change, timers for those yellow warning flashing beacons on roads near schools must be changed. Until now, in unincorporated San Diego County, that was done manually—a worker visited 45 separate school flashing beacons at 30 sites from Alpine to Rainbow. That's about to change.

The County received a federal grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the Business, Transportation & Housing Agency to upgrade controllers for school flashing beacons in unincorporated areas of the County. The grant will pay for a system that allows reprogramming of flashing beacon timers from a central location, saving time and ensuring beacons accurately warn motorists of school zones. The system will be fully functional by September 2004.

The Office of Traffic Safety allocated \$1.47 million in federal funds to San Diego and Imperial counties to help communities develop and implement innovative traffic safety programs. San Diego County received \$32,000 of this allocation to fund the pager-based system.

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**Editors note: technical information contact—**

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